

Remarks

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 11, 12, and 19 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 1-20 are currently pending for consideration by the Examiner. Applicants wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for his acknowledgement of the filed priority papers which have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 2, 6-10, and 14-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0084833 to Kim et al. ("Kim"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to now recite: "a detector for comparing *an output voltage of the voltage generator with a first reference voltage* to output a first sensing signal and comparing *the output voltage of the voltage generator with a second reference voltage* lower than the first reference voltage to output a second sensing signal." In contrast, Kim discloses comparing a reference voltage Vref to multiple divided voltage levels of the output voltage Vpp. See Kim at paragraph 0031 and Fig. 4. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Kim does not disclose the claimed invention as amended. Accordingly, claim 1, as well as claims 2-8 by virtue of their dependence on claim 1, are believed to be allowable for at least the aforementioned reasons.

Claim 9 has been amended to now recite "means for *comparing an output voltage of the voltage generator with a first reference voltage* to output a first sensing signal and *comparing the output voltage of the voltage generator with a second reference voltage* lower than the first

reference voltage to output a second sensing signal.” For the same reasons stated above with respect to claims 1-8, claims 9-15 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 16 as originally presented recites “generating a first voltage signal in response to the action signal when *the output voltage is less than a first reference voltage*; generating a second voltage signal in response to the action signal when *the output voltage is less than a second reference voltage* which is less than the first reference voltage.” Thus, as above, claim 16 recites a method wherein the output voltage is compared to a first reference voltage and then to a second reference voltage. In contrast, Kim discloses comparing a single reference voltage V_{ref} to multiple divided levels of the output voltage. Accordingly, claim 16, and claims 17 and 18 by virtue of their dependence on claim 16, are believed to be allowable.

Claim 19 has been amended to correct a minor typographic error. Claim 19 now recites “a first voltage sub-booster configured to provide a first voltage signal when *an output voltage is less than a first reference voltage*; a main voltage booster configured to provide a second voltage signal when *the output voltage is less than a second reference voltage* that is less than the first reference voltage.” For the same reasons stated above with respect to claims 1-18, claims 19 and 20, by virtue of its dependence on claim 19, are believed to be allowable.

Thus, for the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

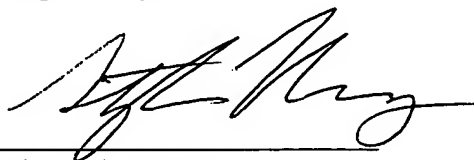
Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all objections and rejections be withdrawn and that a notice of allowance be forthcoming. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative for Applicants for any reason related to the advancement of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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